



**The Secretary of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

March 5, 2003

Greetings:

The Department of Energy (DOE) is hosting its Fourth Annual Small Business Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 12-15, 2003. I am pleased to invite you to attend and learn more about what new initiatives DOE and other Federal agencies are implementing to increase contracting opportunities for small business.

This year's conference theme *Securing Economic Freedom-Empowering Small Business* reflects DOE's response to the President's Agenda on Small Business as well as DOE's commitment to small businesses. The conference plays a major role in providing procurement guidance and contracting opportunities to small business. The conference will bring together representatives of the Department, its prime contractors, our network of National Laboratories, and several other Federal agencies to provide valuable information about business lines and upcoming contracting opportunities at DOE and at other agencies as well.

We have received positive reviews on the previous three conferences, as well as recommendations from the small business community. This year's conference will continue to provide the essential information and guidance needed to do business with the Department and will also incorporate some of the significant recommendations received from prior years.

I look forward to seeing you at the conference and encourage you to register online for the Fourth Annual Small Business Conference. Please check our special website located at <http://www.smallbusiness-outreach.doe.gov>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Spencer Abraham", is written over a large, stylized, light-colored mark that resembles a large "S" or a stylized letter.

Spencer Abraham



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